

Ombudsman's ref: 2022-102165

28 March 2022

Marek

By email to: [foi+request-8563-eb576406@righttoknow.org.au](mailto:foi+request-8563-eb576406@righttoknow.org.au)

Dear Marek

I refer to your email received on 6 March 2022 in which you requested access to certain information under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act). Your request was framed in the following way:

'...I request copies of the reports for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 financial years PREPARED BY THE COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN for presentation to the Parliament under s 76 of the PID Act such that the reports include, in relation to EACH AGENCY identified from (a)-(g), statements of the following (in accordance with s 76(2)(a) of the PID Act):

(i) the number of public interest disclosures received by authorised officers of the agency during the financial year; and

(ii) the kinds of disclosable conduct to which those disclosures relate; and

(iii) the number of disclosure investigations that the principal officer of the agency conducted during the financial year; and

(iv) the actions that the principal officer of the agency has taken during the financial year in response to recommendations in reports relating to those disclosure investigations...'

### **Ombudsman's response**

The Commonwealth Ombudsman's reporting obligations under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2013* (the PID Act) form part of the Commonwealth Ombudsman's annual reports. The Commonwealth Ombudsman's annual reports are available on the Ombudsman's website at: [Annual Reports - Commonwealth Ombudsman](#). For the 2020-2021 financial year, the Commonwealth Ombudsman's report on the operation of the Public Interest Disclosure Scheme is provided at Part 4 of the annual report. Appendix 8 contains information about the disclosures received, the types of disclosable conduct alleged, the number of disclosure investigations, and the actions taken in response to recommendations.

As you have requested access to publicly available documents, and the FOI Act does not apply to publicly available documents, I have provided this response to you outside the FOI Act.

For further inquiries, you may contact this Office by email to [ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au](mailto:ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au) or by telephone on 1300 362 072.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Parkhurst'.

Gregory Parkhurst  
Senior Legal Officer